ATTACHMENT B Situation Report Template and Instructions



Department of Environment and Natural Resources Oct. 19, 2006 1700 hours

Divisions:

Air Quality (DAQ) Environmental Health (DEH) Marine Fisheries (DMF) Radiation Protection (RP) Water Resources (DWR) Aquariums (AQU) Forest Resources (DFR) Museum on Nat. Sciences (DMNS) Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC) Zoological Park (DZP)

Coastal Management (DCM) Land Resources (DLR) Parks and Recreation (DPR) Waste Management (DWM) Customer Service Center (CSC) Legislative/Intergovernmental Affairs (LIA) Pollution Prevention (DPPEA) Water Quality (DWQ)

Apex-Environmental Quality Hazardous Waste Fire Assessment Report

1. <u>Division/Agency Name</u>: N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (Divisions of Waste Management, Air Quality and Water Quality)_

2. Current Situation:

As of 5 p.m., DENR continued to suspend the cleanup of the site.

DENR ordered on Wednesday that cleanup be suspended after a second fire started just after noon in a 55-gallon drum of sodium at the site. The fire was contained later Wednesday afternoon and DENR ordered Environmental Quality to suspend all cleanup work until DENR officials were assured that appropriate steps were taken to protect the public health and safety and the company provided DENR with a written explanation of Wednesday's event and how it happened.

The Division of Waste Management will be collecting surfacial soil samples from residences, schools and businesses previously identified by the Division of Air Quality. Samples will be collected in areas around these sites as well as any playgrounds or other areas where structures are not present but routine soil contact would be suspected. Samples will be analyzed for volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, PCBs, and several inorganic compounds, including beryllium, manganese and cyanide. Sampling is planned to take place on Monday, Oct. 23, and the sampling results are expected back within one week.

Meanwhile, the Division of Air Quality is in the process of screening sites for exterior wipe samples of homes and businesses in the Apex area. They need to identify good locations and then get permission from residents, property owners before sampling.

DAQ is coordinating the screening and on-site testing with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Division of Waste Management. The goal is for DHHS to conduct interior wipe samples and DWM to collect soil samples at the same locations where DAQ does exterior wipe samples.

We are still awaiting the supplies needed to conduct wipe samples, and hopefully they will arrive by Thursday afternoon or Friday morning. That means the testing will done by Friday at the earliest.

DAQ is working with the Town of Apex to find sites for our fixed air monitoring stations near the EQ site during remediation. The town has identified some sites, but we are still trying to determine whether we can get electricity, which is necessary to power the equipment. Security is also an issue, as we would like to avoid potential vandalism or theft of equipment. We don't have a timeline on how soon these monitors will be up-and-running.

DAQ is expecting delivery today of mobile particulate monitors that can measure for particle pollution and certain metals. Mercury will need to be measured with other equipment that we have on hand.

The toxics mobile unit responded to the fire/explosion that occurred at the EQ site on Wednesday afternoon, but air measurements showed no problems. They are no longer at the site, but remain on call if any more problems develop.

Also, DAQ's new mobile particulate monitoring equipment arrived today. We are still waiting on the wipe sampling equipment, but it is expected to arrive this afternoon or early Friday. DAQ toxics staff is now canvassing the Apex area for 30 locations to collect wipe samples and soil tests. We will let you know if we get any feedback from them this afternoon.

DAQ toxics branch plans to have wipe samples analyzed for a range of Resource Conservation Recovery Act metals, expected hazardous waste materials and combustion products, including arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, selenium, silver, mercury, manganese, nickel, beryllium, magnesium, vanadium, total cyanides, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (soot). Estimated cost of the sampling supplies and analysis is \$21,200.

DAQ is developing a map of sampling area, with locations and other information to be added later. We have talked to DENR GIS section about obtaining electronic maps that could be updated with overlays and suitable for reproducing and emailing.

Also Thursday, the Division of Water Quality took water samples in an unnamed tributary of Middle Creek downstream from the Apex site.

<u>3. Departmental Operational Priorities:</u> To ensure that all hazardous material constituents are removed from the site and that there are no remaining environmental hazards. Everything is considered hazardous waste in the burned pile. The main tasks to be completed include categorizing all materials and determining where it will go and how it will be treated.

4. Divisional Operational Priorities: Same as 3.